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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

HIROSHI TAKEMOTO, ET AL.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1733

SERIAL NO: 09/777,847

FILED: FEBRUARY 7, 2001

: EXAMINER: HARAN, J.

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR ASSEMBLING PARTS

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2002, Applicants request reconsideration of the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 32 and 33 are presently active, and no claims have been amended herewith. Claim 34 stands withdrawn.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,154,791 to Gasser et al. (hereinafter "the '791 patent"); Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '791 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,840,147 to Grimm (hereinafter "the '147 patent"); and Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,904,795 to Murakami et al. (hereinafter "the '795 patent") in view of the '147 patent.